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Pres. Johnson Meets Top Vietnam Officials

President Johnson met in Hawaii Feb. 6 with Air Vice Marshall Nguyen Cao Ky, Premier of the Republic of Vietnam and Lt. Gen. Nguyen Van Thieu, RVN Chief of State, to begin a two-day conference on the Vietnam situation.

In his remarks welcoming the Vietnamese officials, the President said the talks would concern "our resolution to defend the peace and to build a decent society for the people of South Vietnam.

"Because we are here to talk especially of the works of peace," he added, "we will leave here determined not only to achieve victory over aggression, but to win victory over hunger, disease and despair."

Among the U.S. officials joining the President in the Hawaii talks were: Secretary of State Dean Rusk; Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara; Gen. Earle Wheeler, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman; Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare John Gardner; Ambassador to RVN Henry Cabot Lodge; Adm. U. S. G. Sharp Jr., Commander U.S. Forces, Pacific; Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Commander U.S. Forces, Vietnam; Ambassador at Large W. Averell Harriman, and Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, Presidential consultant on SE Asia.

President Asks $917 Million Military Assistance in FY67

President Johnson has requested new obligational authority of $917 million for military assistance in FY67.

In a message to Congress, the President noted almost three-fourths of the total program will go to countries adjacent to the borders of Soviet Russia and Communist China.

"The balance of the funds will strengthen the capacity to maintain internal security in countries where instability and weakness can pave the way for subversion," he stated.

He pointed out that this request does not include funds for support of South Vietnamese or other allied forces who are engaged in the crucial struggle for freedom in that country. This funding will come from DOD appropriations.

UN AND RVN—U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Arthur J. Goldberg presents President Johnson's request that the UN take up the Vietnam war, to the Security Council Feb. 1. He said the U.S. continued the bombing lull in North Vietnam for 30 days after directly informing the Hanoi government reciprocal action could lead to peace. (UPI Photo)

U.S. Set for Spring Soft Landing on Moon

This spring the United States plans to launch its first Surveyor spacecraft in an attempt to complete a soft landing on the moon.

Target date for the first American manned lunar landing in the Apollo program is 1969.

President Johnson congratulated the Soviet Union last week for its accomplishment of the first soft landing on the moon with Luna 9, Feb. 3.

The first seven scheduled flights of this country's Surveyor project are planned for testing the landing system and providing experience, followed by emphasis on scientific instrumentation of lunar conditions.

A recent test of the Surveyor's radar-controlled rocket engines proved successful at Holloman AFB, N.M. This marked the second time the three liquid engines have been successfully operated under radar control.

Washington Memos

PRESIDENT JOHNSON HAS directed an immediate speed-up of mail delivery to servicemen in Vietnam and the Pacific area which will boost delivery by at least one to four days. Under the new program, a mother in New York who sends a letter to her son in Vietnam will have the letter carried by air within the U.S. to a West Coast terminal point although she pays only the first-class (5¢) rate. From the Coast, the letter will be sent by air to Vietnam.

COMMENTING ON NEW mail plan, President Johnson said "This faster mail delivery will be welcomed by the thousands of our countrymen in Vietnam and by their families and friends at home. It is part of our unremitting effort to support the high morale of our troops in Vietnam by bringing them the very best in mail service." In cooperation with DOD, an airlift of first-class mail to Vietnam on a space available basis was instituted during the pre-Christmas period.

SIXTY-SIX PERCENT OF Air Force active duty line officers hold college degrees compared to only 27 percent at the close of WWII. Some 10,000 of these hold masters' degrees and about 500 have doctorates.

IN A MESSAGE to the Army, Gen. Harold K. Johnson, Chief of Staff, has called on soldiers not serving in Vietnam to take extra pride and care in their work and appearance as a tribute to their comrades-in-arms fighting in the RVN. He said, "This is not the time for a business as usual approach."

CISM MEMBERSHIP HAS risen to 37 nations with entry of Algeria and Kuwait. Armed forces athletes compete in military sports events scheduled throughout the year in host countries. Sports activities are extensive, including swimming, running and parachuting, among others.

NASA PLANS TO launch the first unmanned Apollo/Saturn IB mission from Cape Kennedy, Feb. 22, to get an evaluation of launch vehicle performances and test the spacecraft command module heat shield. The first Saturn IB launch vehicle will boost production-model Command and Services Modules of the Apollo spacecraft from Launch Complex 34. The cone-shaped command module is the segment in which three astronauts will leave Earth and return during the Apollo manned lunar landing mission before 1970.

DEFENSE'S UNENDING WAR on cost gets a boost at Ft. Eustis, Va., where personnel may dial 2222 to have their suggestions recorded on necessary forms by a stenographer. Dial-A-Suggestion processed 205 suggestions the first six months with 58 being approved.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON NAMED week beginning March 6 "Save Your Vision Week," in a proclamation issued Jan. 28. Congress, by joint resolution Dec. 30, 1963, asked the President to issue such a proclamation each year, to help educate Americans to the importance of preventing blindness through proper care and treatment of eyes.

TAX REFUND DELAYS are caused in many cases by incorrect addresses and illegible or incomplete name identification. An IRS official said another major cause concerns Social Security and military serial numbers; one misplaced number can cause a delay.

CAPEHART HOUSING UNITS at Schilling AFB, Kan., are being used in experimental program providing housing for dependents of military personnel on unaccompanied overseas tours. 735 units are available. Military personnel at surrounding installations or activities may also apply for Capehart housing.

8TH AERIAL PORT Squadron, 315th Air Commando Group, Tan Son Nhut AB, RVN, set record for unloading passengers and supplies Jan. 19. Unit unloaded 1,238 tons in 24-hour period. Number of aircraft through air base approaching 200 per day.

MARINE CORPS HELICOPTERS air-evacuated 20 passengers and crew members from a grounded Panamanian freighter in South China Sea to Seventh Fleet destroyer USS Nickolas when swelling seas prevented attempts to reach stricken vessel by small boats. The ship, "Bright Star," was steaming from Da Nang to Saigon with passengers and cargo for lunar New Year festivities.

IMPROVED MODEL OF APH-5 flying helmet will soon be worn by Army pilots in RVN. New helmet protects against low velocity ballistic fragments and provides greater impact protection. Lined with shock-absorbing plastic, olive green helmet has newly designed sizing pads for comfortable fit, has been adopted as standard for future procurement.

SIX VELA SATELLITES are operating at 60,000-mile altitudes sampling normal background radiation and monitoring for clandestine nuclear tests anywhere in space. Defense research and engineering is also seeking satellite-based capability for detecting world-wide lower atmosphere nuclear tests. Use of ground-based stations alone would be expensive and technically difficult.

NAVY'S NAVIGATION SATELLITE has been operational more than a year, giving precise positioning information for Fleet Ballistic Submarine Force, attack aircraft carriers and other select surface ships. Operations have demonstrated it is far superior to any other position fixing system now in use.

SAMUEL D. BERNS appointed Asst. Director, USO Shows, West Coast Office, will coordinate with Hollywood Overseas Committee in recruiting and processing top star talent for entertainment tours to overseas military installations, particularily RVN.

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U.S. Forces See 'Specials' On RVN Television Debut

Television made its debut in the Republic of Vietnam Feb. 7 with appearances by high government officials of both the U.S. and RVN, plus especially produced entertainment programs.

Programming for the first TV show in South Vietnam, via an airborne television station, included statements by RVN Premier Nguyen Cao Ky, U. S. Ambassador to RVN Henry Cabot Lodge and Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara.

Armed Forces Television viewers witnessed entertainment especially produced for U. S. forces in Vietnam with top celebreties appearing in a special emceed by Johnny Grant and the "Grand Ole Opry," programmed for showing only on the TV-first.

Telecasts were beamed from a C-121 Super Constellation over Armed Forces Television Channel 11 to servicemen in RVN and Channel 9 to the RVN civilian populace.

2,100 Mechanic Apprentices To Be Hired, Trained by AF

Six Air Force Logistics Command installations will hire and begin training about 2,100 civilian maintenance mechanic apprentices during the next five months.

The civilian recruiting program has been undertaken because of difficulty in finding replacements for maintenance journeyman mechanics due to retire in the next 10 years.

Although training will run from two to four years, most trainees will be in a two-year specialized apprentice program. The program produces qualified mechanics capable of performing journeyman level duties in a specialized field.

Air Material Areas at Tinker AFB, Okla.; Kelly AFB, Tex.; McClellan AFB, Calif.; Robins AFB, Ga.; Hill AFB, Utah; and the 2802nd Inertial Guidance and Calibration Group, Newark AFS, Ohio, will receive trainees.

Army Psychologists to Meet

Army Surgeon General's Office will sponsor the fourth biennial short course on "Current Trends in Army Medical Service (AMS) Psychology," at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Feb. 28 - March 4.

During the meeting, AMS and leading civilian psychologists will review current activities and problems of clinical psychology and discuss new ideas and trends.

SILVER STAR WINNER—Capt. Howard F. Bronson III, USAF, a forward controller who braved enemy fire for more than nine hours while directing air strikes and a dramatic rescue in action at Phu Cu pass, is presented the Silver Star for valor by Gen. William C. Westmoreland, USA, Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam.

'Unworkable' KATUSA Program Now in 15th Year

A program begun in Korea in 1950, considered by many at the time to be unworkable, is entering its 15th successful year.

The program, called "Korean Augmentation to the U.S. Army," or KATUSA, has become an integral part of the 8th U.S. Army. About 11,000 Korean personnel are presently assigned.

In 1950, young Korean soldiers were assigned to augment under-strength American combat units brought from Japan at the outbreak of war. They had little military training and time did not allow proper training before assignment to combat units. This and other difficulties caused many to label the program unworkable.

However, KATUSA soldiers proved quick to learn, becoming indispensable to American troops in some of the most vicious fighting. Their familiarity with the terrain, knowledge of North Korean dialects and value as prisoner interrogators made them very effective.

They became battle hardened veterans, teaching American replacements combat techniques. Today, KATUSA soldiers are assigned to American units for training, returning to Republic of Korea Army units to teach fellow soldiers what they have learned.

Aircraft in RVN Use Modified Bomb Fuse

A $40 improvement to WWII bomb fuses will reduce procurement costs $3.7 million and help speed a critical item to Air Force combat units in the RVN, the Air Force Logistics Command has announced.

Modifications to a long delay bomb fuse—designed for WWII box-finned bombs—have made them suitable for external armament on modern supersonic jet aircraft.

Although box-finned bombs are used in RVN by older fighter planes and are dropped from internal bays of modern bombers, limited use created an excess inventory of the long-delay fuse. The modification program will make the excess fuses available for externally-mounted bombs on jet aircraft.

X-15 Display System Under Development

A display system graphically portraying X-15 flights from B-52 lift-off through burnout and landing of X-15, is under development by Northrop Corporation's Nortronics Div., Palos Verdes, Calif.

The display system will provide multicolor presentations of all phases of the X-15 experimental flights at NASA's Flight Research Center, Edwards AFB, Calif. It will also depict chase plane pursuit during X-15 flights.

MEDICAL GIFT—Col. Charles Helderman Jr., U.S. Army Provost Marshal in Vietnam, delivers medical instruments to Dr. Nguyen Ba in the village of Loc Dien. The instruments were donated by a retired military policeman in the U.S. Translator Nguyen Van Dinch (right) assists.

Gemini 9 to Carry 2nd Unit

Gemini 9, scheduled for lift-off in mid-1966, will carry another vehicle into space — Astronaut Maneuvering Unit (AMU) — the world's smallest manned spacecraft.

AMU is a 60-pound backpack with self-contained life support, communications, telemetry, propulsion and manual and automatic stabilization systems.

It is designed to permit astronauts to maneuver at will, preparing for the time when spacemen may be required to assemble structures in space, repair space vehicles and rescue fellow spacemen.

Space Program in 1965 Most Successful to Date

This country's space program reached its highest peak of success last year, plus substantial progress in aeronautics, according to President Johnson's annual report to Congress.

The aeronautics and space activities report disclosed 94 spacecraft were successfully orbited in 1965, by far the largest number in any year and compares with 69 in 1964.

Also, 1965 produced impressive pictures of the Moon and Mars as a result of three spacecraft on successful escape missions.

The budget request for activities in the National Space Program for FY67 is estimated at $6.741 billion or about $257 million less than was appropriated for these purposes in FY66.

QM Course in 60th Year

The 60th year of the Subsistence Officers' Course—only one of its kind within DOD—began Jan. 31 at the U.S. Army Quartermaster School, Ft. Lee, Va.

In order to produce well-qualified officers of all the services in the subsistence field, an extensive program of instruction in the science of food technology, fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, general products, marketing, management and procurement is provided.

The course is also open to civilians within the subsistence procurement field.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Capts. William B. Ellis, Chief of Staff, Third USCG District, N.Y., **Mark A. Whalen,** Chief of Operations Division, Third USCG District, **Douglas B. Henderson,** Deputy Chief, Office of Engineering for the USCG, Washington, and **Russell R. Waesche Jr.,** Chief of Staff, Eighth USCG District, New Orleans, nominated for promotion to rear admiral by Pres. Johnson. **Brig. Gen. Howard A. Morris, USA,** retired Jan. 31. **Brig. Gen. Richard T. Knowles, USA,** Asst. Commander, 1st Air Cavalry Div., presented Legion of Merit and Bronze Star with V. **Brig. Gen. Ellis W. Williamson, USA,** Commander, 173rd Airborne Brigade, assigned to Ft. Benning, Ga., as Asst. Commandant of The Infantry School. **Brig. Gen. Sidney S. McMath, USMCR,** former governor of Arkansas, selected for promotion to major general.

CONTRACT AWARDS

Southern Atlantic Co., Inc., Knoxville, Tenn.: $1,095,600 fixed-price contract for 220,000 men's cotton poplin wind-resistant coats. **(DSA)**

Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., Akron, Ohio: $1,239,427 fixed-price contract for metal parts for Shillelagh missile system. **(Army)**

Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia: $6,852,748 cost-plus-fixed fee contract for additional studies, evaluations and analyses of problems in naval warfare. **(Navy)**

Northrop Corp., Hawthorne, Calif.: $21,805,000 increment to a previously awarded contract for procurement of F-5 aircraft for allied nations under Military Assistance Sales Program. **(Air Force)**